McKinley President When Telephone First Came To Queen Anne's County

Centreville Exchange Arrived When Switchboard Was Installed In Old Observer Building. Queenstown System Added, Postmaster In Charge

The year was 1901.

On March 4th, William McKinley had been triumphantly inaugurated as president for his second term, to the accompanying tramp of thousands of young Spanish War veterans who had convinced the world that United States was truly a world power. Soon, however the nation was to be shocked by the assassination of its first citizen.

On the throne of Great Britan sat Queen Victoria, the first reigning queen since Anne, for whom this county was named. Victoria's brash young grandson, the German Kaiser, was already beginning to rattle the saber alarmingly. A toddling great-grandson of Victoria's known to the family as "Bertie," was one day to make a historic visit to America as King George VI.

Perhaps down the main street of Centreville rambled a strange vehicle pursued by small boys shrieking the time honored "Git a hoss". But certainly in the homes and stores of Centreville the ringing of bells—telephone bells—was being heard for the first time.

For the telephone had come to Queen Anne's county. And fittingly enough, the first switchboard was located in the office of that well established, 36-year old newspaper, the Centreville Observer. Undoubtedly, many of the prominent citizens felt that the telephone was hardly more than a toy, but oftimes it was more convenient to just talk over the contraption than to have to go out in bad weather to see a friend or business acquaintance.

So the new system of 40 telephones was installed by E. G. B. Wright. Mr. Mr. Wright is still building telephone lines in his capacity as Construction Foreman for the Eastern Shore District. Miss Elizabeth Frances took charge as Chief Operator, and the night operating force was John De Ford.

But hold on! Who ever thought that Centreville could get ahead of Queenstown. No, sir! Mr. Wright installed a switch in the Post Office that very same year so that five telephones in the town would have toll connection with the outside world. And not only that, but the following year, Mr. Wright put a real switchboard and twenty-five telephones in service. Mr. George Lane, the postmaster, was the operating force.

Queen Anne's county has been served by three companies during its telephone history. The service was originally installed by the Diamond State Telephone Company, which as its name implies was—and still is—primarily established in Delaware. The Diamond State Company leased its properties in Queen Ane's county in 1908 to the Farmers and Merchants Telephone Company, under the management of Mr. H. M. Thompson of Hillsboro. In 1914 the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company of Baltimore City took over the service, with Mr. Thompson continuing as Manager. Therefore, the present Chesapeake and Potomac Company as a Queen Anne's utility is a mere stripling twenty-five years old as compared to the century and more behind the respected Record-Observer.

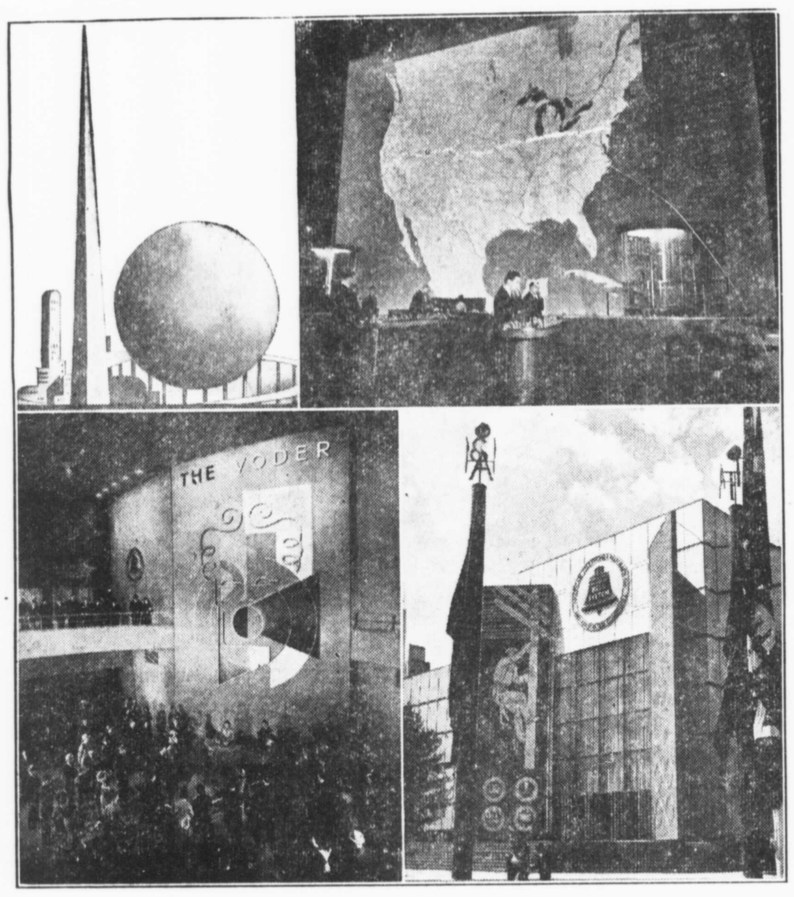
The third central office established in the county at Church Hill was built in 1936 at the time the Centreville office was moved to its present location on Broadway with improved service and quarters. Church Hill people dial their calls in much the same manner as do telephone users in the largest cities in the country.

The original 40 telephones of 1901 connected to the Centreville central office have grown to 613 today ffi Centreville and Church Hill. The office boy, who studied algebra in school, tells us that since the number of telephones has doubled itself about every ten years since the service was opened in 1901, by the year 2000 we should expect 46,080 telephones in Centreville and Church Hill. While we don't doubt his algebra, we doubt his result but don't expect to be here to disapprove it! About 1600 calls are made each day from Centreville and Church Hill telephones.

In Queenstown the five original telephones have grown to 350. Daily calls average about 1100. The recent announcement of dial for the Queenstown telephone users has assured further definite progress in the near future with the very latest and most efficient telephone service available.

H. B. Towers uses the experience of his 25 years of telephone service as Manager at Centreville. Mrs. Della M. Veasey is Chief Operator. At Queenstown the office is managed by L. S. Gabler, and the operation of the switchboard was in charge of Miss Henrietta Schelberg, Agent. When the new dial system is installed in Queenstown this fall Miss Katharine Morris will be local representative, calls will be mechanical and long distance calls will be made through the exchange at Easton.

"COME TO THE FAIR!"



Among the wonders awaiting visitors at the New York World's Fair is the Bell System exhibit, which thousands have already seen and acclaimed as outstanding. Illustrated at the upper right is the huge long distance demonstration map where visitors are permitted to make free calls back home while others listen in. Lower left is the "Voder," the remarkable machine that talks like a man. At the right is the imposing entrance to the Bell System exhibit.

Fire, Brimstone Popular Theme Fifty Years Ago

Horrible Fate Of Patent Medicine Man Who Raised Devil Recounted

Residents of a half century ago liked their religion strong and flavored with fire and brimstone, the same ardor which made camp meetings flourish as centers of revival meetings on the Shore in summer.

An instance of this is given in a letter written by a Church Hill resident in 1886 in which he described an incident alleged to have occurred the same month in Pennsylvania.

In a careful Spencerian hand he wrote: "In Millesburg, Dauphin County, Pa., thursday, Fb. 11th there was a jovial crowd in a hotel at that place & while they were imbibing, Samuel Motter entered.

"Motter was a well known patent medicine vender & was about fifty years of age. Shortly after Motter entered a discussion on religious subjects arose. The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was talked about. Motter dared men to indulge in an imitation of the Lord's Supper. They agreed to have it with beer & bread & the glasses were filled with that beverage.

"Whilst kneeling in mock humility they suddenly heard a strange noise & looking up they saw a sight that made their blood run cold. As near as the scared men could describe it they declare it was an immense, ill formed & foul beast with great cloven feet, pointed horns & eyes that flashed fire.

"With wild yells the men rushed out in the open air & scattered in every direction. All reached home except Motter, who was away for a long time & at last he arrived a Maniac. He was put to bed and Physicians summoned but they could do nothing for him, he raved, howled & prayed, declared that he had seen the Evil One & that he was lost.

"His torture was terrible but nothing could be done to relieve him & he died in the wildest agony. The death bed scene is said to have been full of horrors that can hardly be described."

SO THEY SAY

In Paris the Warner picture, "Racket Busters," had its title changed to "Threats Over the City." But the payoff is the reason why they did it. Too many Parisians thought it was a tennis picture. —Roanoke (Va.) Times.

Electric Range Cools Kitchen

"Heat Menace" Becomes Only Dim Memory

Gone forever are the days when it was necessary for the average American homemaker to spend countless hours in a hot, stuffy kitchen. The enjoyment of preparing special dishes of entertaining guests was generally lost in the waves of unescapable heat coming from a stove that not only cooked the food, but also literally cooked anyone who was in the same room. Add to this general picture a long hot sultry summer and one can easily understand with what reluctance the average housewife approached the meal preparation periods a few years ago.

However, since the introduction of the electric range the "heat menace" is now just an unpleasant memory. Banished are the countless hours when the housewife perspired over a hot stove, cooking meals in a kitchen that had a temperature often higher than that of a "place in the sun." Cool kitchens are now the "order of the day", where any homemaker can prepare food, wherever electricity is available, with a minimum of fatigue physical labor and worry.

Electric ranges make it posible for food to be cooked in a cool and pleasant kitchen, since the application of heat electrically, plus the superior insulation used with a minimum of "lost" heat, enables this method of cooking to be the coolest and most modern yet known to man. Using the principle adopted by the Westinghouse Company, pioneers in the development of electric ranges, the heat is supplied to the cooking vessel by conduction, radiation, and convection. All of the heat emanating from the unit is used in heating the vessel, and consequently, cooking the food.

Older types of stoves, or cooking appliances, have been forced to rely upon flame or fuels to supply the heat necessary to complete a cooking operation. As the result of using a fuel, much of the heat is lost, and escapes into the room to make it uncomfortably warm for the person doing the cooking operation. Then, too, wherever a flame is used, oxygen is consumed—this consumption of oxygen, in turn, causing a distress that often becomes apparent as a headache, or causing a general lassitude.

The introduction of the Corox unit by Westinghouse has eliminated practically all of the excess heat in the cooking operation. Since the heat is conducted directly to the cooking vessel, and the surplus heat is carried to the vessel through the forces of radiation and convention, a maximum of heat from the supplying source is used, and, of course, a resultant economy is effected—so, electric cookery means cool cookery.

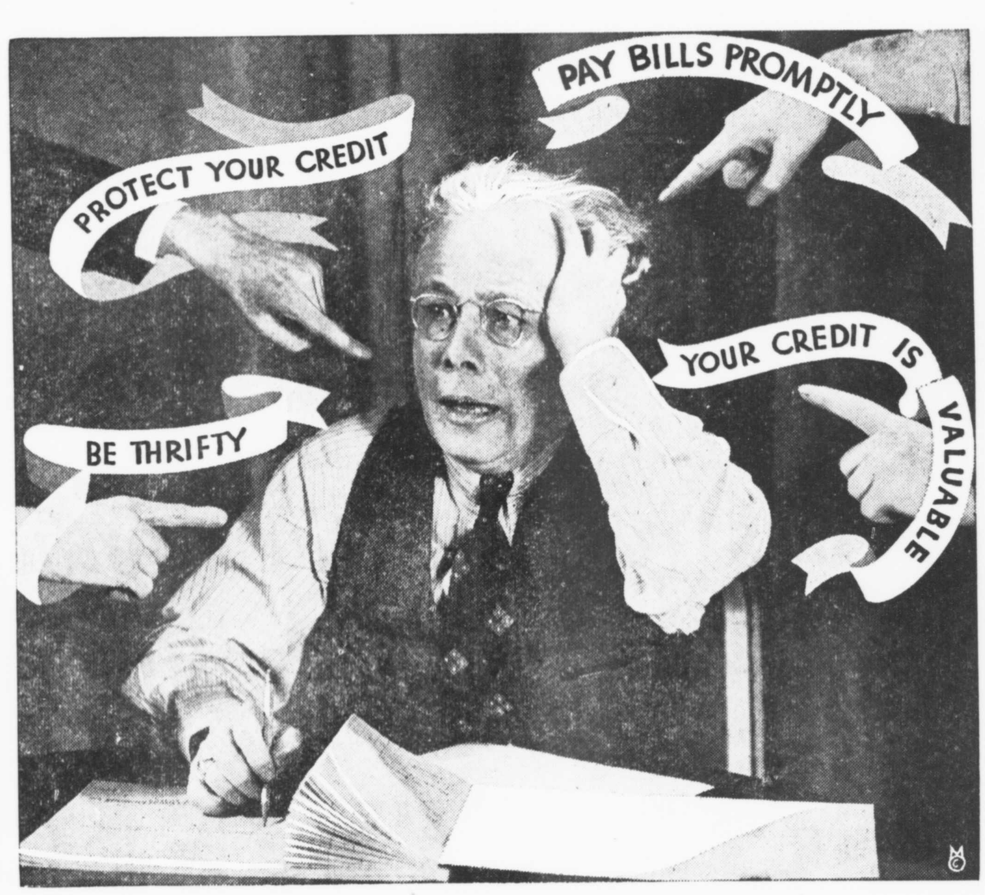
Grass Silage Requires Much Stronger Silo

Farmers who are considering plans for making grass silage this season should make sure of the strength of their silos. Grass silage put with either melasses or phosphate may contain considerably more moisture than most corn silage and may exert outward pressure from 50 percent greater to double or more the pressure of corn silage.

Experimental work is being conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, both at the National Agricultural Research Center and in cooperation with the New Jersey experiment station. Measurements of silage pressure in silos of various diameters are to be continued this season, but the tests already on record show that some silos that are safe for storing corn are not strong enough to withstand the pressure of grass silage, even when the moisture percentage is approximately equal.

The outward pressures were measured by J. R. McCalmont of the U. S. Bureau of Agricultural Engineering and H. E Besley of the New Jersey Agricultural Experimental Station. Filled with corn silage ,the outward pressure per square foot in an 18 by 43 foot silo was about 50 percent greater than in a 14 by 44 foot silo, but when the 18 by 43 foot silo was filled with grass with only a slightly higher moisture content, the pressure per square foot was approximately double that of normal corn.

Farmers with stave silos may find it necessary to add supplementary steel hoops to make safe for grass silage the silos that have been strong enough to care for corn silage. If there is a difference in the structural strength of silos now in use, it will be safer, to store grass silage in the stronger silos, and new silos built with a view to grass storage should be.



Our Low Cash Prices

WILL DO AWAY WITH ALL YOUR WORRIES

The above illustration portrays in a general way just what people go through when there charge accounts reach a peak. There is one thing that is generally known . . . NO ONE IS IN DEBT AT EPSTEIN'S . . . Our shoppers are happy . . . and happy shoppers make happy homes.

'tis true we have no fancy labels or packages. Nor do we have expensively designed show cases or large pillars of any particular architecture. In other words it is Our Idea to save you money on your purchases and yet at the same time make a little profit for ourselves . . .

Always remember when you are seen leaving Epstein's . . . YOU ARE GIVEN CREDIT FOR NOT BEING A CHARGE ACCOUNT SHOPPER. YOU HAVE GAINED A REPUTATION OF BEING A SMART THRIFTY SHOPPER. YOU WILL RECEIVE THE PRAISES OF YOUR FAMILY FOR MAKING YOUR PENNIES STRETCH.

OVERALLS
By LEE

Ladies' Novelty
SHOES
By KOLKER

UNDERWEAR
WORK CLOTHES
HOSIERY
By SKOP & JAFFE

EPSTEIN'S

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Happy Shoppers Make Happy Homes

CENTREVILLE